

Resolution 09-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT Approving the Sweetwater Springs Water District Water Conservation Program

WHEREAS, the California State Water Resources Board issued Board Order WR 2009-0027-DWR (the "Order") on April 6, 2009, which approves a Temporary Urgency Change in Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) Permits to Russian River water users. The Order directs SCWA to "submit a plan to the State Water Resources Control Board to obtain the cooperation and participation of agricultural and municipal Russian River water users to reach a water conservation goal of 25 percent in Sonoma County" through October 2, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the reservoirs in the Russian River system and the flows in the River are low and projections indicate that conditions will deteriorate further later in the summer and fall of 2009; and

WHEREAS, it is in the District's and SCWA's interest that a cooperative effort be developed to address the water shortage situation in the Russian River system; and

WHEREAS, the District adopted the 2005 Urban Water Conservation Plan (the "Plan") by Resolution 08-01 on February 7, 2008, which includes a water shortage contingency element: and

WHEREAS, the Plan's voluntary and mandatory rationing stages may be triggered by a water supply shortage; and

WHEREAS, the Order issued by the California State Water Resources Board indicates a water supply shortage exists thereby triggering the need for enhanced water conservation practices by all users of the Russian River; and

WHEREAS, the Plan provides for voluntary water conservation practices when the conservation target is below 25%; and

WHEREAS, this level of voluntary conservation by District customers may be achieved by adjustment to their interior or exterior water use, but still requires concerted effort by District staff; and

WHEREAS, attached as Exhibit A is a list of the programs and activities that will be undertaken by the District to assist its customers in achieving water savings of up to 15% compared to 2008 water use under the voluntary conservation program. This level of conservation is equivalent to a 25% reduction based on District 2004 water usage; and

WHEREAS, the conservation activities recommended by the District Program are important in all seasons and all years, regardless of State Board Orders and seasonal shortages.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Sweetwater Springs Water District approves the District's Water Conservation Program, as described in Exhibit A and directs staff to begin implementation the programs and activities listed therein.

This Resolution was adopted this June 4, 2009, on roll call by the following vote:

Wanda Smith :	_____
Victoria Wikle :	_____
Jim Quigley:	_____
Sukey Wilder:	_____
Gaylord Schaap:	_____

Victoria Wikle
President of the Board

ATTEST:

Julie A. Kenny
Clerk of the Board

Exhibit A
Resolution 09-14
Sweetwater Springs Water District Water Conservation Program
June 4, 2009

Reduction Target for the District is up to 25% reduction based on the 2004 water use and production for the months of May through September. For the District, as a whole, this equates to a 15% reduction compared to 2008 water use and production during the same summer months. This is not a rationing target or goal for individuals – some customers have little room for additional water use reduction, others can do much more.

District participation is based on the State Board Order directing the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) to “submit a plan to the State Water Resources Control Board to obtain the cooperation and participation of agricultural and municipal Russian River water users to reach a water conservation goal of 25 percent in Sonoma County” from May 1, 2009 to October 2, 2009, in response to SCWA’s Temporary Urgency Change request for Decision 1610. The base year for the 25% reduction calculation is 2004.

The approach/strategy is voluntary conservation whereby District customers are encouraged and offered resources to use water wisely, and to search for and fix leaks on their property. The District will continue with its capital projects aimed at reducing system losses, pay attention to water wasting in the District, fix surfacing leaks as quickly as possible, and look for other opportunities to reduce system losses.

Program Elements:

- Public Education/Information, such as
 - Work with SCWA and other water providers in the region for coordinated message
 - Information on website
 - Mailer in May
 - Home Water Audits – self and assisted:
 - Instructions on meter reading.
 - Check for leaks inside and outside.
 - Evaluate all water uses in facility or home.
 - Office Display with handouts – rebates, low flow showerheads, faucet aerators
 - Provide information on rebates, incentive programs, and water conservation strategies for residents/businesses.
 - Media Spots – press releases, PSA’s done on a regional basis
 - Connect with Statewide effort
- Waste of Water Prohibited, staff will be alerted to be on the lookout for wastage of water and contact customers, as appropriate.
- Rate incentives – rates scheduled to go into effect July 3 have increased financial incentive to reduce water use (higher incline to tiered rates).
- Capital Improvement Program – CIP IV-A is replacing water distribution mains as part of program to reduce system losses. CIP IV-A, Project 2 is starting May 11 and should help reduce losses this summer. CIP IV-A, Project 1 should be completed in mid May and also will reduce system losses.
- District staff fix reported and found leaks on a priority basis.